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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Igaki Keiji  
Intl. Appl. No.: PCT/JP03/12277  
Intl. Filing Date: September 25, 2003  
Title: THREAD FOR VASCULAR STENT AND VASCULAR STENT  
USING THE THREAD  
Docket No.: 113184-98

Mail Stop PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified International Application before entry into the National stage before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office under 35 U.S.C. §371 as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 7 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 13 of this paper.